From: Ted Estes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 1:10am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I think the settlement, as currently designed, will not slow down Microsoft from continuing to abuse its monopoly. Furthermore, it does little to rectify the current ecology in the marketplace that is out of balance do to their abuse of their monopoly. There appears to be no punishment for their crime, just some chaperones to make sure they follow the letter of the settlement. There are also the concessions they have to make for VAR's and such, but that just brings them level with the law. All the way through this case, Microsoft has refused to accept any wrong doing, they have shown No remorse - No shame. How can you expect them to follow any law without respect for that law. There has to be punishment; which, unfortunately, is woefully lacking in this settlement. They cannot be allowed to behave like the predator that they are, while they are a monopoly. They need to be de-clawed, de-fanged and have their wings clipped until they are no longer considered to be a monopoly. At which point, they should be free to fend for themselves in the marketplace with whatever fierceness they want. To be clear, I do not believe they should be punished for being a monopoly. I believe they should be punished for abusing that monopoly; as was shown in the Court's "Findings of Fact". They cannot be trusted with monopoly status.

Respectfully, Ted Estes